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SOME RECENT RESOLUTIONS AND DECISIONS ADOPTED BY UNITED NATIONS
ORGANS WHICH REQUIRE TO BE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION
OF THE COMMISSION

Note by the Secretariat

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During the forty-second session of the United Nations General Assembly, which was held from 15 September to 21 December 1987, the member countries of the Organization adopted a number of resolutions and decisions of special interest to the regional commissions of the United Nations system. The Secretariat has deemed it advisable to bring some of these to the attention of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean at its twenty-second session. It has also decided to take this opportunity to inform the representatives of the ECLAC member countries of the contents of resolution 4(DK) of the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development.

Accordingly, item 8, "other business", has been included on the provisional agenda in order to permit the consideration of the following resolutions and decisions which, inter alia, relate to the work of ECLAC.1/

1. The situation in Central America: threats to international peace and security and peace initiatives (General Assembly resolution 42/1) and special economic assistance to Central America (General Assembly resolution 42/204)

The complete text of resolution 42/1, which was adopted by the General Assembly without a vote on 7 October 1987, is included as annex 1 to this document.

In the operative part of resolution 42/1 the General Assembly expresses its support for the peace effort being made in Central America and urges the international community to increase its technical, economic and financial assistance to the Central American countries.

The full text of resolution 42/204, adopted by the General Assembly on 11 December 1987, is contained in annex 2 to this document. In this resolution the General Assembly requests the Secretary-General, in co-operation with the United Nations Development Programme, ECLAC and other bodies, to send a technical mission to the Central American countries for the purpose of determining the economic and social priorities of these countries and to formulate a special plan of co-operation for Central America. In addition, it appeals to the organs and organizations of the United Nations system to co-operate in implementing this special plan.

In conjunction with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), ECLAC has taken part in the activities designed to fulfil this mandate.2/

2. Co-operation between the United Nations and the Organization of American States (General Assembly resolution 42/11)

The text of General Assembly resolution 42/11, which was adopted without a vote on 28 October 1987, is set out in its entirety in annex 3 to this document. In this resolution the General Assembly invites the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures for promoting and expanding co-operation and co-ordination between the United Nations and the Organization of American States (OAS) in order to increase the capacity of the two organizations for the attainment of their common objectives. Furthermore, it urges the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to intensify and expand their co-operation with the organizations and programmes of the Organization of American States.

Throughout its 40 years of existence, ECLAC has co-operated with OAS within the framework of article 9 of the Commission's Terms of Reference, which provides for co-operation with the appropriate organs of the Inter-American System and the co-ordination of activities in order to avoid any unnecessary duplication of effort.

ECLAC has recently taken an increasingly active part in the meetings convened by OAS, particularly those relating to trade or development. The ECLAC office in Washington D.C., one of whose many duties is to serve as liaison between the Commission and the Organization of American States, has facilitated the Commission's participation in such meetings. In addition, ECLAC has prepared documents for specialized OAS conferences and has carried out joint projects with this organization.

The Latin American Demographic Center (CELADE) has been co-operating with OAS on a continuous basis in the spheres of population and development, demographics and teaching. Finally, the Latin American Centre for Economic and Social Documentation (CLADES) is conducting, in conjunction with OAS, a regional programme to strengthen co-operation among national information networks and systems for development in Latin America and the Caribbean (INFOLAC).

3. Co-operation between the United Nations and the Latin American Economic System (General Assembly resolution 42/12)

The complete text of General Assembly resolution 42/12, which was adopted without a vote on 28 October 1987, is given in annex 4 to this document. In its resolution 42/12, the General Assembly acknowledges with satisfaction the efforts made by the Latin American Economic System (SELA), and decides to strengthen and broaden co-operation between the United Nations system and SELA so that ongoing consultation may be held on matters of common interest and so that the respective secretariats may exchange information with a view to improving the capacity of the two organizations for the attainment of their objectives. It also urges the specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system to continue to intensify their co-operation in the activities of SELA.

Co-operation between ECLAC and SELA dates back to the founding of the latter organization in October 1975 and has taken the form of direct support and collaboration with its Permanent Secretariat.

Thus, a common programme of work with SELA in the areas of services, commodities and multilateral international negotiations has been adopted as part of the UNDP/UNCTAD/ECLAC project on development assistance and trade negotiations.

ECLAC has also made contributions in other areas of common interest within the field of trade, such as in the design of a regional co-operation strategy, the creation of the Latin American and Caribbean Trade Information and External Sector Support Programme (PLACIEK) and the analysis of a proposal for the creation of a Latin American reserve fund.

Other spheres of co-operation include those of science and technology (e.g., the recent founding, on an experimental basis, of the Regional Microelectronics Network for Latin America and the Caribbean (REMLAC)); transport, where ECLAC's participation was a decisive factor in the creation of the Latin American Maritime Transport Commission (COMITRAM) within the framework of SELA; and transnational corporations.

4. Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development

Resolution 42/187, which was adopted by the General Assembly on 11 December 1987 without a vote, is attached as annex 5 to this document. In this resolution the General Assembly welcomes the report of the World Commission on Environment and Development entitled Our Common Future 3/ and, in operative paragraph 6, "decides to transmit the report of the World Commission to all Governments and to the governing bodies of the organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system, and invites them to take account of the analysis and recommendations contained in the report of the World Commission in determining their policies and programmes".

This resolution and the report of the World Commission, copies of which are available for distribution to the delegations, are therefore being submitted to the twenty-second session of ECLAC for its consideration. It is suggested that the member States may wish to analyse the conclusions and recommendations of this report, to take them into consideration during the analysis of the work programme of the Commission and to make such comments and observations as may be relevant for inclusion in the final report of the session.

5. The Environmental Perspective to the Year 2000 and Beyond

Resolution 42/186, adopted without a vote on 11 December 1987, is attached to this document as annex 6. By this resolution, the General Assembly adopted the report entitled The Environmental Perspective to the Year 2000 and Beyond 4/ as a broad framework to guide national action and international co-operation on policies and programmes aimed at achieving environmentally sound development.

In accordance with operative paragraph 5, it is suggested to the participants in the twenty-second session that the recommendations for action contained in the Environmental Perspective should be implemented, as appropriate, through national and international action by governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and scientific bodies.

6. Report of the Joint Inspection Unit on technical co-operation between UNDP and ECLAC (Decision 42/446 of the General Assembly)

Decision 42/446 on operational activities for development, which was adopted by the General Assembly on 11 December 1987, is included as annex 7 to this document. The decision states that the General Assembly took note of several documents, including the Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "Technical co-operation between the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the regional economic commissions: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)" (JIU/REP/87/1).

Copies of this report are available for distribution to the delegates at the twenty-second session, who may wish to take this document into consideration in their deliberations on item 4 of the agenda: co-operation among developing countries and regions.

7. Preparation of the new international development strategy for the fourth United Nations development decade (General Assembly resolution 42/193)

The complete text of General Assembly resolution 42/193, adopted without a vote on 11 December 1987, is attached as annex 8 to this document. In this resolution the General Assembly requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with all the organs and organizations of the United Nations system concerned, to provide information which would be appropriate for the preparation and elaboration of an international development strategy for the fourth United Nations development decade (1991-2000), including that which would be relevant for the assessment of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade. A number of additional observations in this connection were made in a separate note.5/

8. Raúl Prebisch Foundation (General Assembly resolution 42/194)

The full text of General Assembly resolution 42/194, which was adopted without a vote on 11 December 1987, is included as annex 9 to this document. In this resolution the General Assembly recognizes the important and valuable contribution made by the former Executive Secretary of ECLAC to development and international economic co-operation, and invites all States and relevant agencies and bodies of the United Nations system to support the activities undertaken by the Raúl Prebisch Foundation, which has been established in Argentina for the purpose of promoting development.

This resolution is particularly significant for ECLAC as it celebrates its fortieth anniversary, in view of the fact that its presence in the Latin American arena has been so heavily influenced by the personality of Raúl Prebisch.

9. Policy guidelines for the harmonization of activities of the organizations of the United Nations system in science and technology for development (resolution 4(IX) of the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development)

Resolution 4(IX) of the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development, which was adopted at its ninth session (New York, 27 July to 7 August 1987), is included as annex 10 to this document. In this resolution the Committee takes note of the Secretary-General's report on this subject (A/CN.11/84, 12 June 1987) and invites other intergovernmental bodies within the United Nations system to consider the report of the Secretary-General at their forthcoming sessions and to offer their comments in this connection. In his letter of 22 September 1987, the Director-General for Development and International Co-operation of the United Nations asked the Executive Secretary of ECLAC to bring this resolution to the attention of the Commission at its twenty-second session so that relevant comments might be made.

It is suggested that the delegates of the member countries take this resolution and the above-mentioned report into account during their consideration of the programme of work of ECLAC for the biennium 1990-1991. Any comments in this respect formulated by the delegations will be included in the final report of the session.

Notes

1/ Other General Assembly resolutions having a bearing on the Commission's programme of activities include the following: Crime prevention and criminal justice (42/59); Interregional Consultation on Developmental Social Welfare Policies and Programmes (42/125); Economic measures as a means of political and economic coercion against developing countries (42/173); Effective mobilization and integration of women in development (42/178); International co-operation in the field of the environment (42/184); Global Strategy for Shelter to the Year 2000 (42/191); and Operational activities for development (42/196).

2/ See the special plan of co-operation for Central America of the United Nations, New York, April 1988.

3/ A/42/427, annex.

4/ See the annex to General Assembly resolution 42/186.

5/ Preparation of the New International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade. Note by the Secretariat (LC/G.1517(S/S.22/17)), Santiago, Chile, March 1988.



Annex 1

42/1. The situation in Central America: threats to international peace and security and peace initiativesThe General Assembly,

Recalling Security Council resolutions 530 (1983) of 19 May 1983 and 562 (1985) of 10 May 1985 and its resolutions 38/10 of 11 November 1983, 39/4 of 26 October 1984 and 41/37 of 18 November 1986, as well as the initiative of the Secretaries-General of the United Nations and of the Organization of American States of 18 November 1986,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General submitted in pursuance of General Assembly resolution 41/37, 1/

Recognizing the far-sighted and unfailing determination, as well as the decisive contribution, of the Contadora Group and its Support Group in favour of peace in Central America,

Convinced that the peoples of Central America wish to achieve peace, reconciliation, development and justice, without outside interference, in accordance with their own decision and their own historical experience, and without sacrificing the principles of self-determination and non-intervention,

Aware that the Agreement signed at Guatemala City on 7 August 1987 by the Presidents of the Republics of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua 2/ is the outcome of the decision by Central Americans to take up fully the historical challenge of forging a peaceful destiny for Central America,

Aware also of the political will which inspires them to settle their differences by means of dialogue, negotiation and respect for the legitimate interests of all States, establishing commitments to be fulfilled in good faith, through the verifiable performance of actions aimed at achieving peace, democracy, security, co-operation and respect for human rights,

1/ A/42/127-S/18686.

2/ A/42/521-S/19085, annex.

Taking note with satisfaction of the establishment of the International Verification and Follow-up Commission provided for in the Agreement reached by the Central American Governments and comprising, in addition to them, the countries of the Contadora Group and its Support Group and the Secretaries-General of the United Nations and of the Organization of American States,

Deeply concerned at the need to improve the conditions of life of the people of Central America,

1. Commends the desire for peace expressed by the Central American Presidents in signing on 7 August 1987 at Guatemala City the Agreement entitled "Procedure for the establishment of a firm and lasting peace in Central America";^{3/}

2. Expresses its firmest support for the Agreement;

3. Calls upon the Presidents to continue their efforts to achieve a firm and lasting peace in Central America and requests the international community to lend its full support;

4. Welcomes the acceptance by the Secretary-General of the invitation from the Central American countries to participate in the International Verification and Follow-up Commission, set up at Caracas on 22 August 1987, and recognizes the importance of the initiative which he took jointly with the Secretary-General of the Organization of American States on 18 November 1986;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to afford the fullest support to the Central American Governments in their effort to achieve peace, especially by granting the assistance requested of him for the effective functioning of the machinery provided for in the Guatemala Agreement for the verification and follow-up of the commitments made;

6. Urges the international community to increase technical, economic and financial assistance to the Central American countries and requests the Secretary-General to promote a special plan of co-operation for Central America;

7. Requests the Secretary-General to keep the General Assembly informed of the implementation of the present resolution;

8. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-third session the item entitled "The situation in Central America: threats to international peace and security and peace initiatives".

3/ Ibid.

Annex 2

42/204. Special economic assistance to Central America

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 42/1 of 7 October 1987 entitled "The situation in Central America: threats to international peace and security and peace initiatives", in particular paragraph 6, in which it urged the international community to increase technical, economic and financial assistance to the Central American countries and requested the Secretary-General to promote a special plan of co-operation for Central America,

Bearing in mind the need to contribute effectively to peace, co-operation and respect for human rights, the implementation of genuine democratic and pluralist processes and economic and social development, which are indispensable for ensuring the well-being of the peoples of the Central American region,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Central America,^{1/} in particular with regard to the need to implement an emergency plan for the reconstruction and large-scale economic development of the region, which in turn will facilitate the resolution of the political and security crisis facing the region,

Recalling the terms of the recent agreement on the procedure for the establishment of a firm and lasting peace in Central America, signed at Guatemala City on 7 August 1987,^{2/} which stressed the need to adopt agreements that would accelerate development and create more egalitarian societies that are free of poverty,

Convinced of the urgent need to improve the standard of living of the Central American peoples,

Emphasizing the importance of appropriating additional resources for development and the full use of human resources, as recognized in the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade,^{3/} and recognizing the economic co-operation efforts being made to this

1/ A/42/127-G/18686.

2/ A/42/521-S/19085, annex.

3/ Resolution 35/56, annex.

end by the European Economic Community and others with the countries of the region,

Commending the concerted efforts being made by the countries of the Central American region to deal with adverse economic and social conditions through economic and social integration and co-operation,

Convinced that peace and development are inseparable,

1. Supports the implementation of mechanisms essential to achieving the economic and social objectives agreed by the Governments of Central America in the Document of Objectives of 9 September 1983, sponsored by the Contadora Group;^{4/}

2. Requests the Secretary-General in close co-operation with the United Nations Development Programme to send a technical mission to the Central American countries for the purpose of determining, in consultation with each of the Governments of the region, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and such integration bodies as the Permanent Secretariat of the General Treaty on Central American Economic Integration, the Central American Bank for Economic Integration, the Latin American Economic System and the Action Committee in support of the Economic and Social Development of Central America, the economic and social priorities of the countries of the region;

3. Requests the Secretary-General, on the basis of the priorities identified, to formulate, in close consultation with the Governments of the region and the appropriate organs and organizations of the United Nations system, a special plan of co-operation for Central America to be submitted, in view of the immediate needs, no later than 30 April 1988 for consideration by the General Assembly, during its current session;

4. Urges the international community to increase technical, economic and financial assistance to the Central American countries as a way of bolstering their efforts to achieve peace and development;

5. Appeals to the organs and organizations of the United Nations system to co-operate in implementing the special plan for economic co-operation in Central America and to continue and expand their assistance programmes;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-third session on the implementation of the present resolution.

^{4/} Official Records of the Security Council, Thirty-eighth Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1983, document S/16041, annex.

Annex 3

42/31. Co-operation between the United Nations and the Organization of American StatesThe General Assembly,

Reaffirming the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling that the purposes of the United Nations are, inter alia, to achieve international co-operation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character, and in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms and to be a centre for harmonizing the actions of nations in the attainment of these common ends,

Bearing in mind that the Charter of the United Nations provides for the existence of regional arrangements or agencies for dealing with such matters relating to the maintenance of international peace and security as are appropriate for regional action, and other activities consistent with the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Recalling also that the Charter of the Organization of American States reaffirms these purposes and principles, and provides that that organization is a regional agency under the terms of the Charter of the United Nations,

Bearing in mind that the Charter of the Organization of American States affirms that economic co-operation is essential to common welfare and prosperity, and that that organization will put into effect the principles on which it is founded by fulfilling its regional obligations under the Charter of the United Nations,

Taking note of the standards on co-operative relations between the Organization of American States and the United Nations, its specialized agencies and other national and international organizations,^{1/} adopted by the Organization of American States on 23 April 1971,

^{1/} Document OEA/Ser.P-AG/doc.109 Rev.1 of the Organization of American States of 22 April 1971.

Underlining the need to strengthen the co-operation that already exists between the United Nations and the Organization of American States, especially in respect of economic and social development, as well as the recent initiative by their Secretaries-General regarding co-operation in the peace process in Central America,

Convinced of the need for more efficient and co-ordinated utilization of available economic and financial resources to promote the common objectives of the two organizations,

1. Invites the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures for promoting and expanding co-operation and co-ordination between the United Nations and the Organization of American States in order to increase the capacity of the two organizations for the attainment of their common objectives;

2. Requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in close co-ordination with the Secretary-General of the Organization of American States, to promote meetings between representatives of the two organizations for the purpose of holding consultations on policies, projects, measures and procedures which will facilitate and broaden co-operation between them;

3. Urges the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system:

(a) To collaborate with the Secretary-General in the submission and follow-up of proposals designed to intensify and expand co-operation in all spheres between the United Nations system and the Organization of American States and its specialized agencies;

(b) To initiate, maintain and increase consultations with the specialized agencies, organizations and related programmes of the Organization of American States responsible for development projects for the purpose of co-operating with them in the attainment of their objectives;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-third session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

5. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-third session the item entitled "Co-operation between the United Nations and the Organization of American States".

Annex 4**42/12. Co-operation between the United Nations and the Latin American Economic System****The General Assembly,**

Bearing in mind that the Convention establishing the Latin American Economic System, signed on 17 October 1975, created a permanent body for intraregional co-operation and consultation and co-ordination among Latin American and Caribbean States,

Considering that, in accordance with the Convention, the activities of the Latin American Economic System are carried out in keeping with its principles that correspond to those of the United Nations such as equality, sovereignty and independence of States, solidarity, non-intervention and respect for the economic, social and political systems freely chosen by States,

Recalling that, in accordance with the Convention, co-operation as well as consultation and co-ordination activities promoted by the Latin American Economic System are carried out in the spirit of the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, contained in General Assembly resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974, and of the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States, contained in Assembly resolution 3281 (XXIX) of 12 December 1974,

Bearing in mind its resolution 35/3 of 13 October 1980, in which it granted observer status to the Latin American Economic System in the General Assembly, and that several organs and agencies of the United Nations system participate on the same basis in the Latin American Council, the supreme organ of the Latin American Economic System,

Taking into account the fact that the Secretary-General of the United Nations is represented at sessions of the Latin American Council by a special representative,

Considering that the Latin American Economic System has entered into agreements or understandings regarding the conduct of co-operation with organs and agencies of the United Nations system, such as the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Development Programme, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations

Industrial Development Organization, the International Labour Organisation, the World Intellectual Property Organization, the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator, the United Nations Institute for Training and Research and the International Telecommunication Union,

Recognizing the need to strengthen and broaden co-operation between the Latin American Economic System, as a regional forum of the Latin American and Caribbean countries, and the United Nations, and the desirability of the two bodies maintaining permanent liaison, continuing to hold consultations on matters of common interest, exchanging information between their secretariats and increasing co-operation in different spheres,

Taking note of the communiqué issued at the thirteenth session of the Latin American Council, in which it was agreed that an annual dialogue at the level of Ministers for External Relations would be held prior to regular sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations, in order to examine the international situation and its repercussions on the region, as well as actions to strengthen Latin American unity,

Recalling those Articles of the Charter of the United Nations which encourage regional co-operation activities for the purpose of promoting the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

1. Acknowledges with satisfaction the efforts made by the Latin American Economic System to promote co-operation among Latin American and Caribbean countries and consultation on and co-ordination of their positions, as well as to stimulate their economic and social development;

2. Decides to strengthen and broaden co-operation between the United Nations system and the Latin American Economic System through permanent liaison which will allow for ongoing consultation on matters of common interest, exchange of information between secretariats and increased co-operation, so as to improve the capacity of the two organizations for the attainment of their goals and objectives;

3. Emphasizes the importance of close co-operation between the United Nations system and the Latin American Economic System for the implementation of the new international economic order in keeping with the relevant resolutions and decisions adopted by the General Assembly and the Latin American Council;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures to strengthen and broaden co-operation between the United Nations and the Latin American Economic System;

5. Urges the specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system to continue to intensify their co-operation in the activities of the Latin American Economic System;

6. Further requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-third session on the implementation of the present resolution and on the evolution of co-operation between the United Nations system and the Latin American Economic System.

Annex 5

42/187. Report of the World Commission on Environment and DevelopmentThe General Assembly,

Concerned about the accelerating deterioration of the human environment and natural resources and the consequences of that deterioration for economic and social development,

Believing that sustainable development, which implies meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs, should become a central guiding principle of the United Nations, Governments and private institutions, organizations and enterprises,

Recognizing, in view of the global character of major environmental problems, the common interest of all countries to pursue policies aimed at sustainable and environmentally sound development,

Convinced of the importance attached to a reorientation of national and international policies towards sustainable development patterns,

Recalling that, in its resolution 38/161 of 19 December 1983 on the process of preparation of the Environmental Perspective to the Year 2000 and Beyond to be prepared by the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, it welcomed the establishment of a special commission, which later assumed the name World Commission on Environment and Development, to make available a report on environment and the global problematic to the year 2000 and beyond, including proposed strategies for sustainable development,

Recognizing the valuable role played in the development of the report of the World Commission by the Intergovernmental Inter-sessional Preparatory Committee of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, as envisaged by the General Assembly in its resolution 38/161,

Recalling that in resolution 38/161 it decided that, on matters within the purview of the United Nations Environment Programme, the report of the World Commission should in the first instance be considered by the Governing Council of the Programme, for transmission to the General Assembly, together with its comments, and for use as basic material in the preparation of the

Environmental Perspective, for adoption by the Assembly, and that on those matters which were under consideration or review by the Assembly itself, it would consider the relevant aspects of the report of the World Commission,

Noting Governing Council decision 14/14 of 19 June 1987 1/ transmitting the report of the World Commission to the General Assembly,

Noting further that the Environmental Perspective to the Year 2000 and Beyond 2/ has taken account of the main recommendations in the World Commission's report,

Recognizing the instrumental role of the Commission in revitalizing and reorienting the discussion and deliberation on environment and development and in enhancing the understanding of the causes of present environmental and development problems, in demonstrating the ways in which they transcend institutional frontiers and in opening new perspectives on the interrelationship between environment and development as a guide to the future,

Emphasizing the need for a new approach to economic growth, as an essential prerequisite for eradication of poverty and for enhancing the resource base on which present and future generations depend,

1. Welcomes the report of the World Commission on Environment and Development entitled Our Common Future;3/

2. Notes with appreciation the important contribution made by the Commission to raise the consciousness of decision-makers in Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental international organizations, industry and other forms of economic activity, as well as of the general public, in regard to the imperative need for making the transition towards sustainable development, and calls upon all concerned to make full use in this regard of the report of the Commission;

3. Agrees with the Commission that, while seeking to remedy existing environmental problems, it is imperative to influence the sources of those problems in human activity, and economic activity in particular, and thus to provide for sustainable development;

4. Agrees further that an equitable sharing of the environmental costs and benefits of economic development between and within countries and between present and future generations is a key to achieving sustainable development;

5. Concurs with the World Commission that the critical objectives for environment and development policies which follow from the need for sustainable development must include preserving peace, reviving growth and changing its quality, remedying the problems of poverty and the satisfaction

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-second Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/42/25 and Corr.1), annex I.

2/ Ibid., annex II.

3/ A/42/427, annex.

of human needs, addressing the problems of population growth and of conserving and enhancing the resource base, reorienting technology and managing risk, and merging environment and economics in decision-making;

6. Decides to transmit the report of the World Commission to all Governments and to the governing bodies of the organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system, and invites them to take account of the analysis and recommendations contained in the report of the World Commission in determining their policies and programmes;

7. Calls upon all Governments to ask their central economic and sectoral agencies to ensure that their policies, programmes and budgets encourage sustainable development and to strengthen the role of their environmental and natural resource agencies in advising and assisting central and sectoral agencies in that task;

8. Calls upon the governing bodies of the organs, organizations and programmes in the United Nations system to review their policies, programmes, budgets and activities aimed at contributing to sustainable development;

9. Calls upon the governing bodies of other relevant multilateral development assistance and financial institutions to commit their institutions more fully to pursuing sustainable development in setting their policies and programmes in accordance with the national development plans, priorities and objectives set by the recipient Governments themselves;

10. Requests the Secretary-General, through the appropriate existing mechanisms, including the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, to review and co-ordinate on a regular basis the efforts of all the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to pursue sustainable development and to report thereon to the General Assembly through the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme and the Economic and Social Council;

11. Stresses the essential role of the United Nations Environment Programme within its mandate in catalysing the sustainable development efforts of the United Nations system, while fully taking into account the co-ordinating responsibilities of the Economic and Social Council, and agrees with the World Commission that that role should be strengthened and that the resources of the Environment Fund should be substantially enlarged, with greater participation;

12. Considers that the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, within its mandate and with participation, when appropriate, at the ministerial level, should keep under examination the long-term strategies for realizing sustainable development on a periodic basis, and should include the results of its examinations in its reports to be submitted to the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council;

13. Agrees that the catalytic and co-ordinating role of the United Nations Environment Programme in the United Nations system should be reinforced in its future work on environmental and natural resource issues;

14. Reaffirms the need for additional financial resources from donor countries and organizations to assist developing countries in identifying, analysing, monitoring, preventing and managing environment problems in accordance with their national development plans, priorities and objectives;

15. Reaffirms the need for developed countries and appropriate organs and organizations of the United Nations system to strengthen technical co-operation with the developing countries to enable them to develop and enhance their capacity for identifying, analysing, monitoring, preventing and managing environmental problems in accordance with their national development plans, priorities and objectives;

16. Invites Governments, in co-operation with the regional commissions and the United Nations Environment Programme and, as appropriate, intergovernmental organizations, to support and engage in follow-up activities, such as conferences, at the national, regional and global levels;

17. Calls upon Governments to engage non-governmental organizations, industry and the scientific community more fully in national and international activities to support efforts towards sustainable development;

18. Invites the governing bodies of the organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations to report, as appropriate, to the General Assembly, not later than at its forty-fourth session, through the Economic and Social Council, on progress made in their organizations towards sustainable development, and to make such reports available to the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme at its next regular session;

19. Also invites the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme to provide comments on matters concerning progress on sustainable development that fall within its mandate, on these reports and other developments for submission to the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session of 1989 and to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session;

20. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-third session, through the Economic and Social Council, a progress report on the implementation of the present resolution and to the Assembly at its forty-fourth session a consolidated report on the same subject;

21. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-third session a sub-item entitled "A long-term strategy for sustainable and environmentally sound development" under the agenda item entitled "Development and international co-operation".

Annex 6

42/186. The Environmental Perspective to the Year 2000 and BeyondThe General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 38/161 of 19 December 1983 on the process of preparation of the Environmental Perspective to the Year 2000 and Beyond, by which it, *inter alia*, welcomed the desire of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme to develop the Environmental Perspective and transmit it to the General Assembly for adoption, benefiting in carrying out that function from its consideration of the relevant proposals made by a special commission, which adopted the name World Commission on Environment and Development,

Welcoming the Environmental Perspective to the Year 2000 and Beyond,^{1/} prepared by the Intergovernmental Inter-sessional Preparatory Committee of the United Nations Environment Programme, referred to in General Assembly resolution 38/161, and further considered and adopted by the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme at its fourteenth session, by its decision 14/13 of 19 June 1987,^{2/} as a basis for the further elaboration of its programme and operations, while acknowledging that different views exist on some aspects,

Appreciating that concepts, ideas and recommendations contained in the report of the World Commission on Environment and Development^{3/} have been incorporated into the Environmental Perspective,

1. Expresses its appreciation for the efforts of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme and its Intergovernmental Inter-sessional Preparatory Committee in the preparation of the Environmental Perspective to the Year 2000 and Beyond;^{4/}

^{1/} Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-second Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/42/25 and Corr.1), annex II.

^{2/} Ibid., annex I.

^{3/} A/42/427, annex.

^{4/} Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-second Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/42/25 and Corr.1), annex II.

2. Adopts the Environmental Perspective to the Year 2000 and Beyond, as annexed to this resolution, as a broad framework to guide national action and international co-operation on policies and programmes aimed at achieving environmentally sound development, and specifically as a guide to the preparation of further system-wide medium-term environment programmes and the medium-term programmes of the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, in the light of Governing Council decision 14/13;5/

3. Notes that the perceptions generally shared by Governments of the nature of environmental problems, and their interrelations with other international problems, and of the efforts to deal with them include the following:

(a) An international atmosphere of peace, security and co-operation, free from the presence and the threat of wars of all types, especially nuclear war, and from the waste of intellectual and natural resources on armaments by any nation, would greatly enhance environmentally sound development;

(b) The imbalance of present world economic conditions makes it extremely difficult to bring about sustained improvement in the world's environmental situation. Accelerated and balanced world development and lasting improvements in the global environment require improved world economic conditions, especially for the developing countries;

(c) Since mass poverty is often at the root of environmental degradation, its elimination and ensuring equitable access of people to environmental resources are essential for sustained environmental improvements;

(d) The environment provides constraints as well as opportunities for economic growth and social well-being. Environmental degradation, in its various forms, has assumed such proportions as can cause irreversible changes in ecosystems, which threaten to undermine human well-being. Environmental constraints, however, are generally relative to the state of technology and socio-economic conditions, which can and should be improved and managed to achieve sustained world economic growth;

(e) Environmental issues are closely intertwined with development policies and practices. Consequently, environmental goals and actions need to be defined in relation to development objectives and policies;

(f) Although it is important to tackle immediate environmental problems, anticipatory and preventive policies are the most effective and economical in achieving environmentally sound development;

(g) The environmental impacts of actions in one sector are often felt in other sectors; so internalization of environmental conditions in sectoral policies and programmes and their co-ordination are essential to achieve sustainable development;

(h) Since conflicts of interest among population groups, or among countries, are often inherent in the nature of environmental problems, the participation of the concerned parties is essential to determine effective environmental management practices;

(i) Environmental degradation can be controlled and reversed only by ensuring that the parties causing the damage will be accountable for their action, and that they will participate, on the basis of full access to available knowledge, in improving environmental conditions;

(j) Renewable resources, as part of complex and interlinked ecosystems, can have sustainable yields only if used while taking into account system-wide effects of exploitation;

(k) Safeguarding of species is a moral obligation of humankind and should improve and sustain human well-being;

(l) Building awareness at various levels of environmental conditions and management, through the provision of information, education and training, is essential for environmental protection and improvement;

(m) Strategies to deal with environmental challenges have to be flexible and should allow for adjustments to emerging problems and evolving environmental management technology;

(n) The growing number and variety of international environmental disputes need to be resolved by peaceful means;

4. Welcomes as the overall aspirational goal for the world community the achievement of sustainable development on the basis of prudent management of available global resources and environmental capacities and the rehabilitation of the environment previously subjected to degradation and misuse, and the aspirational goals to the year 2000 and beyond as set out in the Environmental Perspective, namely:

(a) Achievement over time of such a balance between population and environmental capacities as would make possible sustainable development, keeping in view the links among population levels, consumption patterns, poverty and the natural resource base;

(b) Achievement of food security without resource depletion or environmental degradation and restoration of the resource base where environmental damage has been occurring;

(c) Provision of sufficient energy at reasonable cost, notably by increasing access to energy substantially in the developing countries, to meet current and expanding needs in ways which minimize environmental degradation and risks, conserve non-renewable sources of energy and realize the full potential of renewable sources of energy;

(d) Sustained improvements in levels of living in all countries, especially the developing countries, through industrial development that prevents or minimizes environmental damage and risks;

(e) Provision of improved shelter with access to essential amenities in a clean and secure setting conducive to health and to the prevention of environment-related diseases, while alleviating serious environmental degradation;

(f) Establishment of an equitable system of international economic relations aimed at achieving continuing economic advancement for all States based on principles recognized by the international community in order to stimulate and sustain environmentally sound development, especially in developing countries;

5. Agrees that the recommendations for action contained in the Environmental Perspective should be implemented, as appropriate, through national and international action by Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and scientific bodies;

6. Requests the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme to keep under review the extent to which the long-term environmental actions recommended in the Environmental Perspective have been implemented and to identify any new environmental concerns that may arise;

7. Calls special attention to section IV of the Environmental Perspective, which spells out "instruments of environmental action", to be used as support in addressing, as appropriate, problems dealt with in previous sections of the Environmental Perspective;

8. Stresses the essential role of the United Nations Environment Programme within the United Nations system in catalysing environmentally sound and sustainable development and agrees with the Governing Council that this role should be strengthened and that the resources of the Environment Fund should be substantially increased with greater participation;

9. Endorses the priorities and functions for the United Nations Environment Programme stated in paragraph 117 of the Environmental Perspective;

10. Decides to transmit the Environmental Perspective to all Governments and to the governing bodies of the organs and organizations of the United Nations system as a broad framework to guide national action and international co-operation on policies and programmes aimed at achieving environmentally sound and sustainable development;

11. Calls upon the governing bodies of the organs and organizations of the United Nations system to consider the Environmental Perspective and take it into account in the development of their own medium-term plans and programmes as relevant to their own mandates;

12. Requests the governing bodies of relevant United Nations organizations to report regularly to the General Assembly on the progress made in achieving the objectives of environmentally sound and sustainable development in line with paragraph 114 of the Environmental Perspective;

13. Invites the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme to report on the implementation of the present resolution and the relevant aspects of the Environmental Perspective to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session.

Annex 7

42/446. Operational activities for development.

The General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Second Committee, took note of the following documents:

(a) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "Technical co-operation between UNDP and the regional economic commissions" (JIU/REP/86/10) and comments of the Secretary-General thereon;1/

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the role of qualified national personnel in the social and economic development of developing countries;2/

(c) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "Technical co-operation between the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the regional economic commissions: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)" (JIU/REP/87/1);3/

(d) Report of the Secretary-General on United Nations technical co-operation activities;4/

(e) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Administrator of UNDP on the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women: United Nations Development Fund for Women.5/

1/ A/42/110 and Add.1.

2/ A/42/275-E/1987/76.

3/ A/42/305.

4/ DP/1987/45 and Add.1.

5/ A/42/597/Rev.1.

Annex 8

42/193. Preparation of the new international development strategy for the fourth United Nations development decadeThe General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974, containing the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, 3281 (XXX) of 12 December 1974, containing the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States, and 3362 (S-VII) of 16 September 1975 on development and international economic co-operation,

Recalling also its resolution 35/56 of 5 December 1980, the annex to which contains the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, and its decision 40/438 of 17 December 1985 concerning the review and appraisal of the implementation of the Strategy,

Concerned that the goals and objectives of the Strategy remain largely to be fulfilled,

Recognizing the crucial and urgent need for the reactivation of the economic and social development process of the developing countries,

1. Requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with all the organs and organizations of the United Nations system concerned, to provide information which would be appropriate for the preparation and elaboration of an international development strategy for the fourth United Nations development decade (1991-2000), including that which would be relevant for the assessment of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, taking into account the above-mentioned resolutions;

2. Also requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-third session, through the Economic and Social Council, on the information requested above;

3. Decides to consider, at its forty-third session, appropriate further action for the assessment of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade and the preparation and elaboration of an international development strategy for the fourth United Nations development decade.

Annex 9

42/194. Raúl Prebisch FoundationThe General Assembly,

Recognizing the important and valuable contribution of Raúl Prebisch, the first Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and former Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America, to the United Nations system, in particular to development and international economic co-operation,

1. Warmly welcomes the establishment in Argentina of the Raúl Prebisch Foundation to promote the study of development issues, especially those which affect the developing countries;

2. Invites all States and relevant agencies, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to support the activities undertaken by the Raúl Prebisch Foundation in the cause of development.

Annex 10

4(DX). Policy guidelines for the harmonization of activities of the organizations of the United Nations system in science and technology for development

The Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development,

Recalling its mandate to formulate guidelines for the harmonization of policies of the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system in regard to scientific and technological activities, as determined by the General Assembly in its resolution 34/218 of 19 December 1979,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on policy guidelines for the harmonization of activities of the organizations of the United Nations system in science and technology for development ^{1/} and the cross-organizational review of the medium-term plans of the organizations of the United Nations system and programme analysis in the area of science and technology for development, ^{2/}

Noting that the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination, at its twenty-seventh session, recommended that the Committee should exercise its function of bringing about effective harmonization more vigorously and that it should balance its broad policy role by indicating specific priorities more amenable to follow-up by the organizations of the United Nations system, ^{3/}

Taking into account Economic and Social Council resolution 1987/79 of 8 July 1987, in which the Council urged the Committee to exercise the co-ordinating role assigned to it under the Vienna Programme of Action on Science and Technology for Development ^{4/} and by the General Assembly in resolution 34/218 and to consider co-ordination questions at each of its sessions,

1/ A/CN.11/84.

2/ E/1987/51.

3/ A/42/16 (Part I), para. 275.

4/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development, Vienna, 20-31 August 1979 (United Nations publication, Sales No.: E.79.I.21 and corrigenda), chap. VII.

Stressing the importance of co-ordination at all levels, including the country level, which should be conducted in close co-operation with the countries concerned, as well as with the resident co-ordinator/resident representative of the United Nations Development Programme on specific subjects of relevance system-wide and on the substantive theme considered by the Committee,

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on policy guidelines for the harmonization of activities of the organizations of the United Nations system in science and technology for development, and welcomes the general ideas contained in it and the approach taken;

2. Invites other intergovernmental bodies within the United Nations system to consider the report of the Secretary-General at their forthcoming session and to offer their comments with a view to making it more relevant and useful to the United Nations system as a whole;

3. Requests the Secretary-General, together with the Task Force on Science and Technology for Development of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, to revise his report in the light of:

(a) The proposals relating to the cross-organizational review of the medium-term plans of the organizations of the United Nations system and programme analysis in the area of science and technology for development, made by the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination at its twenty-seventh session,^{5/} and in Economic and Social Council resolution 1987/79;

(b) The views expressed by delegations during the present session of the Committee;

(c) The comments made by other intergovernmental bodies of the United Nations system;

(d) The results obtained from the pilot studies on hand at the national level.

^{5/} See A/42/16 (Part I), chap. III, sect. B.